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9-11-2014

# Bill Monroe Homeplace - Rosine, Kentucky - Dedication (FA 685)

Manuscripts & Folklife Archives

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## Recommended Citation

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives  
 Department of Library Special Collections  
 Western Kentucky University  
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

*Descriptive Inventory*

**FA 685      BILL Monroe Homeplace – Rosine, Kentucky – Dedication**

1 box. 2 folders. 3 items. 2001. Originals, DVD, and cassette tape.

SC2012.179.86

***BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE***

William Smith Monroe, more commonly known as Bill Monroe, was a mandolinist, singer, and songwriter from Rosine in Ohio County, Kentucky. Born on September 13, 1911 to James Buchanan “Buck” and Malissa Vandiver Monroe, he was the youngest of eight children. His mother and her brother, Pendleton “Pen” Vandiver, were both musically talented and Monroe and his family grew up playing and singing at home. His mother died when Monroe was ten, followed by his father six years later. Monroe went to live with his uncle Pendleton Vandiver.

In 1949 at age 38, after signing with Decca Records, Monroe entered what has been called the “golden age” of his career. His band recorded a number of bluegrass classics including “My Little Georgia Rose,” “On and On,” “Memories of Mother and Dad,” and “Uncle Pen.” On January 16, 1953, Monroe was critically injured in a two-car wreck. Monroe, who suffered injuries to his back, left arm, and nose, was rushed to General Hospital in Nashville. It took him almost four months to recover and resume touring.

In 1967, Monroe founded an annual bluegrass festival at Bean Blossom in southern Indiana, a park he had purchased in 1951, which routinely attracted a crowd of thousands. The annual “Bill Monroe Bean Blossom Bluegrass Festival” is now the world’s oldest continuously running annual bluegrass festival.

Monroe’s last performance occurred on March 15, 1996. He ended his touring and playing career in April, following a stroke. Monroe died on September 9, 1996 in Springfield, Tennessee, only four days before his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. Monroe was crucial in helping to create the style of music known as bluegrass. The genre takes its name from his band, the “Blue Grass Boys,” named after the sobriquet for Kentucky. He is often referred to as “The Father of Bluegrass Music.”

***COLLECTION NOTE***

This collection features video and audio documentation of the Bill Monroe homeplace dedication ceremony held on 23 August 2001 in Rosine, Kentucky. The building itself is a five-room wooden house that has been restored to its 1917 appearance and filled with Monroe family heirlooms and mementos.

***SHELF LIST***

|              |  |             |                |
|--------------|--|-------------|----------------|
| <b>BOX 1</b> | <b>BILL Monroe Homeplace Dedication</b>        | <b>2001</b> | <b>3 items</b> |
| Folder 1     | Inventory                                      |             | 1 item         |
| Folder 2     | DVD and cassette tape recordings of dedication | 2001        | 2 items        |

***BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD***

FA BILL Monroe Homeplace – Rosine, 2001  
685 Kentucky – Dedication

This collection features video and audio documentation of the Bill Monroe homeplace dedication ceremony held on 23 August 2001 in Rosine, Kentucky.

1 box. 2 folders. 3 items. Originals, DVD, and cassette tape.

SC2012.179.86

***SUBJECT ANALYTICS***

Monroe, William Smith, b.1911,d.1996 – Relating to  
Rosine – Relating to

Young/Jeffrey 09/11/2014